

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 04945 01 OF 02 281303Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 ACDA-07
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05
OMB-01 /103 W
-----110553 281355Z /46

R 281155Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1934
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION NATO
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 LISBON 4945

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PAGE 02 LISBON 04945 01 OF 02 281303Z

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV SHUM XJ
SUBJECT: DISSENT ON ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE

REFS: (A) LISBON 4798 (NOTAL) (DTG 220904Z JUN 77)
(B) LISBON 4782 (NOTAL) (DTG 211557Z JUN 77)
(C) LISBON 4747 (NOTAL) (DTG 201550Z JUN 77)

- (D) LISBON 4716 (NOTAL) (DTG 171753Z JUN 77)
(E) LISBON 4680 (NOTAL) (DTG 161740Z JUN 77)

SUMMARY: AN AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE TO THE RECENT ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE HELD IN LISBON ATTACKED THE CONFERENCE AS A PROPAGANDA EFFORT SERVING SOVIET INTERESTS. END SUMMARY.

1. SOVIET MANIPULATION: IN THE WORDS OF A DISGRUNTLED AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE TO THE JUNE 16-19 LISBON WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST APARTHEID, RACISM, AND COLONIALISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, THE CONFERENCE'S OBJECTIVES WERE TO "EXTEND THE SOVIET UNION'S INFLUENCE OVER THE SOLIDARITY MOVEMENTS WITH THE PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AND ISOLATE THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS THAT REFUSE TO BE CONTROLLED BY THE USSR." THESE CHARGES WERE MADE BY MICHAEL LITTLE, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACIAL EXPLOITATION AND NINE OTHER AUSTRALIAN ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH RACISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. LITTLE'S REMARKS WERE REPORTED IN AT LEAST ONE DAILY, THE JUNE 23 "JORNAL NOVO."

2. PROPAGANDA EVENT: LITTLE BACKED UP HIS CHARGES WITH A DESCRIPTION OF BEHIND-THE-SCENES WORKINGS OF THE CONFERENCE:

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PAGE 03 LISBON 04945 01 OF 02 281303Z

(A) SELECTIVE INVITATIONS: RATHER THAN INVITING ALL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH RACISM AND THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATION, WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS "ONLY THOSE MOVEMENTS WHICH IN A GENERAL MANNER ARE CONTROLLED BY THE SOVIET UNION" WERE INVITED. "THE SOUTH AFRICAN PAN-AFRICAN CONGRESS, THE ZIMBABWE NATIONAL AFRICAN CONGRESS (ZANU) .. THE GERMAN ANTI-IMPERIALIST LEAGUE, CHINESE ORGANIZATIONS, AND OTHER EUROPEAN MOVEMENTS WERE NOT INVITED."

(B) KEY CONFERENCE POSTS CONTROLLED: CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP POSTS, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE FIVE COMMISSIONS WHICH HANDLED MOST OF THE CONFERENCE'S WORK (REFTEL E) WERE APPORTIONED BY CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS TO TRUSTED INDIVIDUALS PRIOR TO START OF CONFERENCE. "THE PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES OF ALL COMMISSIONS," SAID LITTLE, "BELONGED TO PRO-SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS."

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PAGE 01 LISBON 04945 02 OF 02 281307Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 ACDA-07
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05
OMB-01 /103 W
-----110619 281355Z /46

R 281155Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1935
INFO /AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0275
AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY BONN
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 LISBON 4945

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PAGE 02 LISBON 04945 02 OF 02 281307Z

(C) AGENDA MANIPULATED: THE COMMISSIONS HAD NO
WORK AGENDA AND CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS WOULD "NOT ALLOW
DISCUSSION OF ONE." WHEN LITTLE ATTEMPTED TO SIGN UP TO
SPEAK, HE FOUND THAT SPEAKERS LISTS HAD ALREADY BEEN

DRAWN UP.

(D) DISCUSSIONS AND DISSENT STIFLED: THERE WAS NO REAL DISCUSSION OF EVENTS OR CONFERENCE ACTIONS AT THE CONFERENCE SESSIONS. LONG SPEECHES WOULD GOBBLE UP MOST OF THE TIME IN THE PLENARIES AND EVEN THE COMMISSIONS, WHERE DISCUSSION WAS SUPPOSED TO TAKE PLACE. LITTLE WAS GIVEN A TOTAL OF FIVE MINUTES TO STATE HIS CASE IN THE COMMISSION ON "ACTIONS OF SOLIDARITY" AND THREE MINUTES IN THE PLENARY.

(E) RAILROADED MOTIONS: THE "ACTION PROGRAM" PASSED IN PLENARY (REFTEL A) APPEARED IN ITS COMMISSION AS THE ALLOTTED TIME WAS DRAWING TO A CLOSE. IT WAS DRAFTED WITHOUT CONSULTATIONS AND "APPROVED" WITHOUT A VOTE.

3. WHO DECIDES?: LITTLE'S BASIC GRIEVANCE WAS THAT FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS WER NOT BEING DECIDED BY THE PEOPLE WHO SHOULD DECIDE THEM. HE SAID: ALL THE CONFERENCE MOTIONS "STATED THAT THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT OF ZIMBABWE ARE THE LEGITIMATE 'LIBERATION MOVEMENTS' AND THAT ALL OTHERS ARE FRAUDS. IN OUR OPINION, THIS SHOULD BE DECIDED BY THE PEOPLES OF THOSE COUNTRIES, AND NOT THE USSR THROUGH ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THIS ONE. OUR FEDERATION, UNLIKE THE SOVIET UNION, WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ALL THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNIZED BY THE OAU."

4. FULL TEXT OF INTERVIEW BEING POUCHEO.

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PAGE 03 LISBON 04945 02 OF 02 281307Z

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2011278
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISSENT ON ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE
TAGS: PDEV, SHUM, XJ
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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